T.H. Churches

St. George Church Will Dedicate Social Center

Star. 5/21/70

The Most Rev. Metropolitan Philip Saliba, Archbishop of New York and all North America, will preside over dedication ceremonies of the new Educational Annex and Social Center of St. George's Antiochian Orthodox Church this weekend.

Festivities will begin at 8 p.m. Saturday with a variety show, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Moon," written and coordinated by Michael Maloof and a committee composed of members of the St. George Ladies' Society and their husbands.

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Mrs. Harold Sabbagh and Mrs. Skander Nasser Jr. will direct the performance.

A musical trio from Cleveland, "The Sound of the Cedars," will present a performance after the show. The group will offer a program of Middle Eastern and Arabic music. Michael Maloof and Mrs. Abe Malooley are co-chairmen of the evening's activities.

A Hierarchal Divine Liturgy will be celebrated by Archbishop Philip, assisted by the Rev. George Rados, pastor of St. George's, at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Liturgical responses will be chanted and sung by Joseph Sabb, Dr. Harold Sabbagh and the St. George Choir, under the direction of Mrs. LaVern Roberts. Mrs. Mable Corey and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Poleski will offer the Holy Oblation for the Divine Liturgy.

+ + +

The Grand Banquet will be served in the new Social Center immediately following the celebration of the Liturgy. Dr. Charles Ashanin, of the Christian Theological Seminary of Indianapolis, will speak on "The Relevancy of Orthodoxy in America." Dr. Sabbagh and Russell Mesalam are in charge of the banquet, with Mesalam acting as master of ceremonies.

The new building includes six classrooms, pastor's office, caretaker's living quarters, a large social room and a new kitchen. Albert Laham, a member of the congregation, was general contractor for the new facility.

All events are open to the public, according to Charles Shahadey, ticket chairman for the program.

METROPOLITAN PHILIP SALIBA

Ts SEP 16 1984

St. George's to host regional Orthodox youth conference

Community Affairs File

The Society of St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St., will host the fall executive council meeting of the Society of Orthodox Youth Organization of the Midwest Region Oct. 5, 6 and 7, according to Esther Simbol, chairman.

The conference opens Oct. 5 with a hospitality evening to welcome out-of-town guests at Howard Johnson's, headquarters for the event.

Business meeting of the executive council is scheduled for Oct. 6 at the St. George Social Center with Ric Shahin of Flint, Mich., president of the midwest region, presiding. He will be assisted by Zack Kassis, local chapter president.

Teenage SOYO also will meet the same day with the group's regional president, Amy Haddad, Cleveland, Ohio, and local president, Jeniffer Tannos, in charge of the session.

Rachael Blair of Canton, Ohio, will conduct a Ladies Society meeting assisted by local chapter president, Vicki Maloof.

A church school workshop will take place for superintendents, teachers and parents with Bob Snyder of Akron, Ohio, and JoAnn Droubie, St. Paul Minn., the Midwest Christian Education directors in charge. Joe Tanoos is the local superintendent.

The choir workshop will be conducted by Joann Abraham, Grand Rapids, Mich., assisted by the local choir director, Chuck Shahadey.

Spiritual advisors of the organizations scheduled to attend include the Rev. Alexander Atty, Louisville, Ky.; the Rev. George Alberts, Grand Rapids, Minn.; and the Rev. John Khouri, St. Paul, Minn.

Also in attendance will be David Slaman, Toledo, Ohio, president of North American Council; Rob Rinvelt, vice president of the council; and representing the archdiocese, Dave Barr, assistant youth director of Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of New York and North America including Canada, headquartered

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in Englewood, N.J.

Delegates will be from Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan.

The conference will close Sunday with Divine Liturgy celebrated by the Rev. Daniel Rohan, St. George pastor, assisted by the Midwest SOYO spiritual advisors.

A farewell dinner will be served for out-of-town guests and local parishioners following the service.

Simbol and Mary Lou Saikley will serve as general chairmen for the weekend assisted by Kassis.

Other persons assisting in the weekend activities include Teen SOYO under the leadership of Jennifer Tanoos; Saturday luncheon sponsored by the Society of St. George; Mary Simbol, Nora Shahadey, Kate Malooley and Kaliope Rohan, Saturday evening; along with local president, Mrs. Maloof, in charge of the maza; George Azar and Mike Ellis, entertainment for Sunday's farewell dinner; Nancy Ellis, Cathy Azar, Sandy Kassis and Claudia Tanoos.

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Churches (All) Community Affairs File

Orthodox youth set meeting at local site

Ts OCT 3 1997

Delegates and spiritual advisors from 11 states and Canada will attend the fall executive council meeting of the Society of Orthodox Youth Organization of the Midwest Region on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St.

Co-chairman Esther Simbol said persons from New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Indiana will arrive Friday at Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, 3033 Dixie Bee Road. A hospitality program begins at 8 p.m.

On Saturday, meetings are scheduled in the St. George Social Center with Rick Shahin, Flint, Mich., president of the Midwest region, leading the adult SOYO; Amy Haddad, Cleveland, Ohio, regional president, in discussion with local teen-agers; and Rachael Blair, Canton, Ohio, ladies organization president, conducting a women's session.

Also attending will be David Barr, assistant youth director of Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of New York and North America including Canada, Englewood, N.J; and Rob Rinvelt, vice president of SOYO's North American Council.

Saturday at 8 p.m., the musical play "Return of the Jiddo," featuring several St. George parishioners, is scheduled. A dance follows at 9 p.m. The public also can attend and tickets will be available at the door.

Sunday at 10:30 a.m. local priest Father Daniel Rohan, assisted by visiting clergy, will celebrate the Devine Liturgy. A farewell dinner will follow the service.

Locals assisting in the weekend's activities include co-chaiman Mary Lou Saikley; Society of St. George president Zack Kassis; Ladies Society president Vicki Maloof; and Teen SOYO president Jennifer Tanoos.

Liturgy culminates youth group confab

Community Affairs File

T S OCT 7 1984

Churches (W.C.)

Following a full day of meetings and workshops Saturday, the fall executive council conference of the Society of Orthodox Youth Organization of the Midwest Region concludes today with a Divine Liturgy service and dinner at St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St.

Arriving Friday, delegates and clergy from 11 states and Canada discussed and formulated upcoming programs and events involving teen and senior SOYO members.

SOYO is divided into six regions. Each region has the same goals — unity, love, honesty, devotion, awareness and commitment. In 1985, Ignatuis IV, Patriarch of Antioch, will visit all six regions.

The Patriarch is leader of the Orthodox Church as Pope John Paul II is to the Roman Catholic Church, according to Esther Simbol, co-chairman of the three-day event.

One SOYO project is the Food for Hungry People program that is promoted throughout the six regions. Last year, $100,000 was collected and distributed to the poor in North America, South America, Middle East and Africa.

Also discussed was the new Learning and Retreat Center and Library at the Antiochian Village in Pennsylvania. Money raised by SOYO helps fund a summer camp, retreats, conferences and Special Olympics at the facility, which utilizes teen volunteers as counselors.

Establishing and supporting missions is another program of SOYO, which is assisted by The Fellowship of St. John the Divine.

Enliven to Christ programs are conducted each year as well as creative arts, writing and poetry, and a Bible Bowl.

Christian education is another part of the program and a church school workshop was conducted for Sunday School teachers by Bob Snyder, midwest education director. Also, a sacred music workshop took place.

SOYO also sends religious material to college students and Armed Forces members who are unable to attend an Orthodox Church.

Last year, SOYO provided three college scholarships to Orthodox students and aid to seminarians at St. Vladimir Orthodox Seminary, Crestwood, N.J.

Recognition is given to the outstanding SOYO chapter of the year and an Ellis Khouri Merit Award presented to members who have given their time at the Midwest and local level. The merit award was established in 1977 and Simbol was the initial recipient.

The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America is located in Englewood, N.J., under the leadership of Metropolitan Philip, Primate; Most Rev. Michael, Auxiliary, and Rt. Rev. Antoun, Auxiliary. Presently, there are 130 parishes with more than 200,000 Orthodox faithful.

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T MAY 14 1984

Churches (Orthodox)

Special service honors those who have died

Former members and friends of St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St., were honored Sunday at the blessing of a memorial monument during a special service by church priest, Father Daniel Rohan.

Following the 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy service, parishoners proceeded to the church courtyard for the ceremony. Trisagion prayers and traditional blessed wheat were given in memory of those who have died, Rohan said.

An imprint of an icon (sacred picture) of Saint George, the patron saint of the church, and a prayer dedicated to the memory of the dead have been inscribed on the granite monument.

Rohan said the prayer reads, "Memory Eternal — May Christ, our true God, who hath dominion over the living and the dead, establish the souls of his servants, departed this life, in His holy mansions and number them among the just, where there is neither sickness nor sorrow nor sighing, but life everlasting."

Dedication of the monument will take place later in the year, Rohan said.

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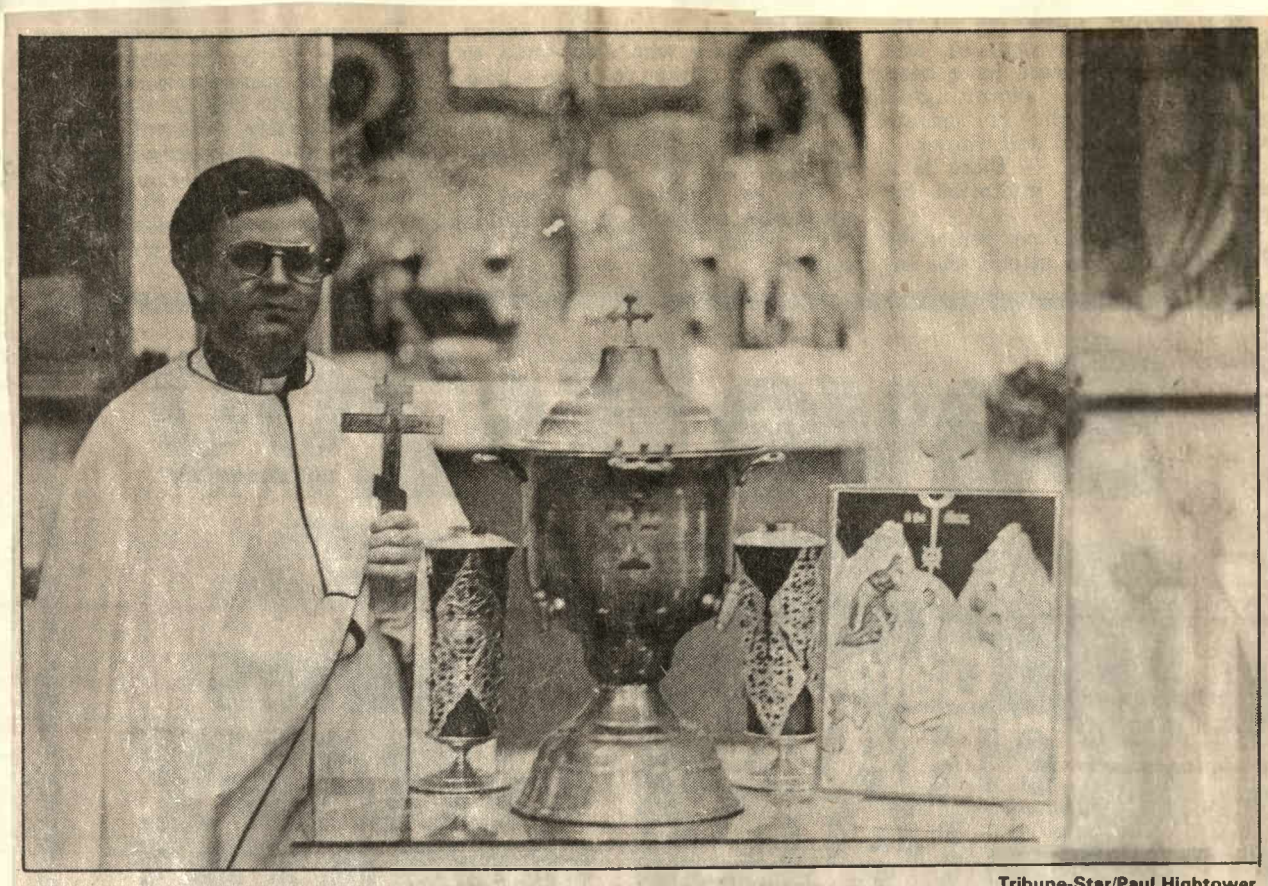

Tribune-Star/Paul Hightower

Getting ready: The Rev. Daniel Rohan prepares for the blessing of holy water in the altar.

Orthodox Christians observe Epiphany Day

(Ukr) Church ~~Church~~ Churches

Community Affairs File

By Charles J. Maloof
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

On Sunday, Orthodox Christians throughout the world observed Epiphany Day, which is considered one of the greatest feast days of the year, according to the Rev. Daniel Rohan, priest of St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St.

"Epiphany Day is a day of illumination and sanctification," Rohan said. "The Orthodox Christian pledges a greater participation in the sacramental life of the church of Christ. It ranks in importance with Christmas and Easter and is celebrated with greater solemnity than Christmas itself in many parts of the world."

Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance" and Orthodox faithful celebrated the baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan River by St. John the Baptist.

"The importance of this feast day lies in the fact that for the first time the Holy Trinity was revealed for all mankind to know and believe in," Rohan explained, which is translated as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Epiphany Day also is called "Theophany" which means "God shows himself to us," the priest added.

Also on Sunday was the traditional blessing of the water, because the water of the Jordan was blessed by the presence of Christ when he was baptized in the river.

The service for blessing holy water took place Saturday evening at St. George Church and those in attendance were given bottles of the substance for use during the year in their homes.

Holy water also was blessed Sunday and parishioners drank the liquid following the church service.

Also, the priest blessed all Orthodox homes with the sanctified water that received his blessing Sunday as part of the Epiphany service.

In many parts of Greece and in some southern states in the U.S., the traditional blessing of the waters is observed in a lake or river, Rohan said. A cross is thrown into the waters and young men dive into the water to retrieve the religious symbol.

Rohan said that, "when the priest blesses homes he prays that the blessing of the Epiphany season be with the faithful throughout the year and that their homes be sanctified with the prayers in Christian living and spiritual direction in their lifetime."

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Churches WV
St. George's
Orth.

Churches - (TH)

Church to honor board member

T JUN 11 1980

A special Father's Day dinner at St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St., honoring the original board of trustees and its lone remaining member, Sam Corey, is scheduled at noon Sunday.

Sam Corey

Corey is to be presented an award by the Most Reverend Archbishop Michael Shaheen, who also will be in attendance at the 10 a.m. Pontifical Liturgy.

The original board members who founded the St. George Church in Terre Haute in 1927, in addition to Corey, were Nicholas Corey, Alexander Corey, Michael Ellis, Sam George, William Kassis, Charles Maloof, Salem Nasser, Assad Saikley, Charles Saikley, Farris Shahadey and Sam Tanoos. Priest of the first parish was the Very Rev. Archimandrite Anthony Bashir.

The public is invited to the dinner at the St. George Social Center and reservations should be made as soon as possible. Tickets may be obtained by contacting church pastor Father Daniel Rohan, 1930 S. Fourth St.

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Charles WV

Community Affairs File

Church Has Anniversary

Churches (T.H.)

Community Affairs File

S MAY 1 4 1977

Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of St. George Orthodox Church in Terre Haute opened Friday evening at the church with an informal parish meeting

Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m., a brunch for visiting clergy and guests is scheduled at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Malooley. An afternoon reception for His Eminence Archbishop Michael Shaheen will be held at the home of Woodrow Corey, his nephew.

Archbishop Shaheen is the first American-born Christian to become bishop of the Church of Antioch. He has been in the priesthood for 26 years, and has visited Terre Haute on a previous occasion.

A "dutch treat" dinner is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. at the Saratoga Cafe. Following the dinner there will be a "Hafli", an indoor Arabic style dance at 8:30 p.m. Joey Saab and Ferris Shahady, local musicians, will be joined by two musicians from Detroit for this occasion.

Highlight of the observance will be Sunday at 11 a.m. when the hierarchial divine liturgy will be offered with celebrants Archbishop Shaheen, Father Samuel David, Father George Rados (former pastor of the local church 1961 to 1976), and Father George Ghannam. Assisting regular Chantor Joe Saab Sr. will be Woodrow Corey, chanting the same words he did in 1927 when the church first opened.

A banquet will close the week-end of festivities at 6 p.m. Sunday. Honored guests include Congressman John Myers, Ralph Tucker, Terre Haute Area Chamber of Commerce; and Mayor William Brighton. Dignitaries from Orthodox churches around the nation will also attend.

The "burning of the mortgage" ceremony will take place following dinner, following completion of payments on the social center, erected a few years ago.

A special memento of the occasion will be given each of those attending, according to Mike Maloof, General chairman, complete with a 50-year history of St. George Antiochian Church.

St. George church was established and opened in the old Vorhees School, 635 No. 5th St. Organizing the parish was the Right Rev. Antony Bashir who later became the Metropolitan Archbishop of North America and the United States.

Those on the first board of trustees were Charles Maloof, Sam Tanoos, Saleem Nasser, Assad Saikley, Charles Saikley, Ferris Shahady, Michael Ellis, Nicholas Corey, Sam Corey, Skander Corey, Sam George, and William Kassis.

The present church was built in 1957 under the leadership of board president Joe Malooley, with the social center and parish house added later.

The religion of Eastern Orthodoxy is the oldest in Christiandom, dating back to the Apostle Peter. Liturgy services are primarily in English, but Arabic chanting is still used.

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Community Affairs File

Churches WV
St. George Orth.

Community Affairs File Churches (TH) T APR 27 1977

THE TRIBUNE, TERRE HAUTE, IND. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1977

FINAL MORTGAGE PAYMENT — St. George Orthodox Church Parish Council president George Azar receives a check of $1,000 from Ladies Society treasurer, Mrs. Joseph C. Sabb, Sr., which represents the final payment toward the mortgage held for many years on the social center. The golden anniversary celebration May 13-15 will mark the official "burning of the mortgage" ceremony. Beaming their approval are parish priest, Rev. Samuel David and Ladies Society president, Mrs. Abe Malooley. House of Photography Photo

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T. H. CHURCHES

T.H. Churches WV

St. George Orth.

Many Old Country Customs Still Prevail Here in City

PAMPHLET F

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the first in a series of articles about Old World customs being observed here in Terre Haute.

By NIKI LEE MAHONEY
Tribune Staff Writer

What happens when persons come from the old country to settle in the U. S., this vast melting pot? Do they continue to recognize the old customs and traditions or are they swept up by Americanism completely?

Religion and the churches of the Old World seem to perpetuate the old customs, for generations though usually conforming to the U.S. way in language and use of the Gregorian calendar instead of the Julian.

For instance, the parishioners of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church, 1900 S. 4th St., celebrated the old customs of the Epiphany and are being visited this month by their pastor, Father George M. Rados.

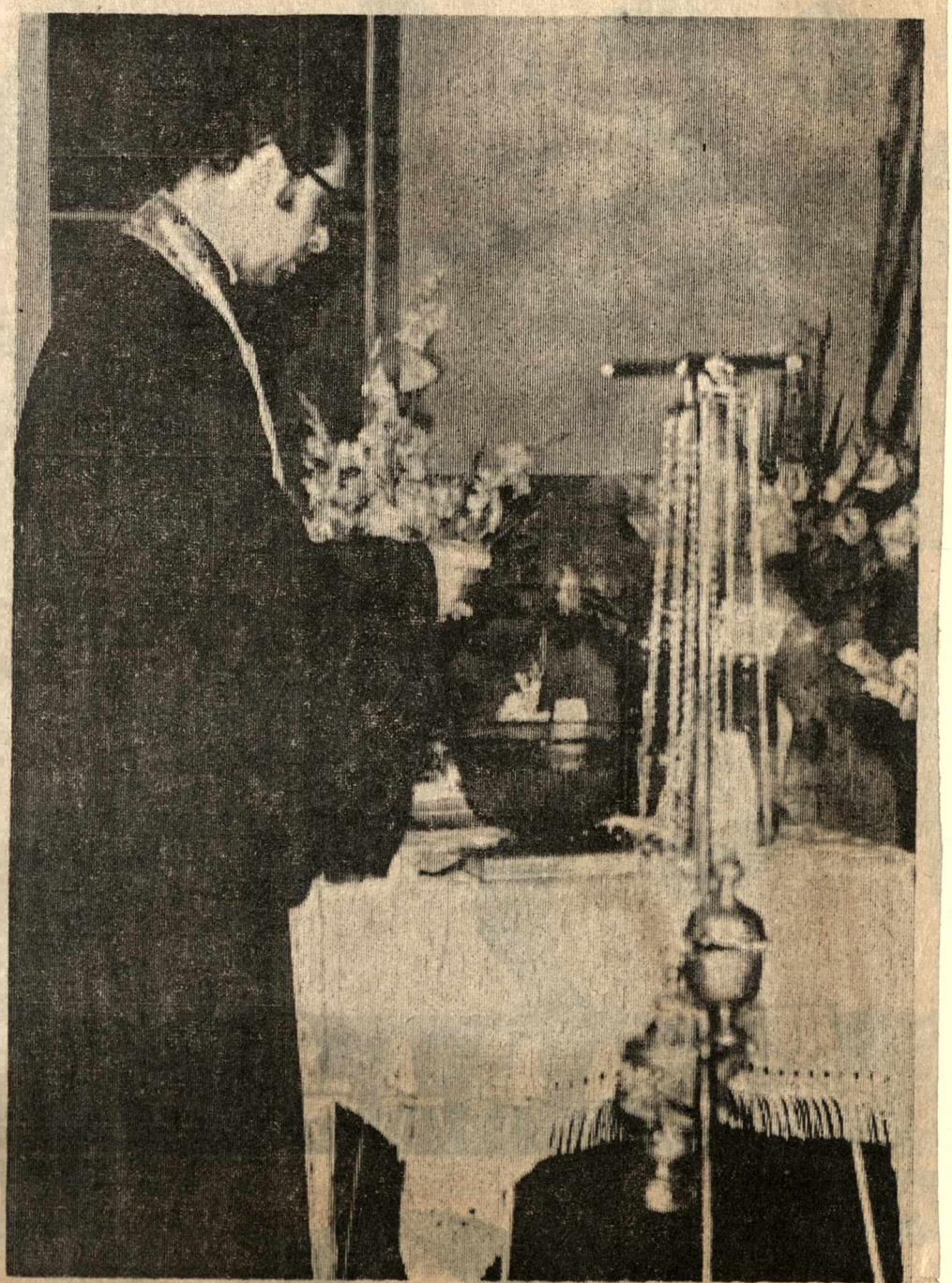
Epiphany, Jan. 6, is emphasized more by the Orthodox Church than Christmas is. The merry making starts Jan. 6 when the water is blessed. Then the pastor goes from home to home and sprinkles each room with the blessed water while chanting a hymn about John the Baptist.

Feast Days Clebrated

Feast days are celebrated by the Orthodox Church throughout the year, starting with the circumcision of the Lord Jan. 1. All feast days, all things prescribed by the Church, are celebrated according to old religious customs.

Greek, Arabic and English languages are spoken during church events. However, because of the increasing number of young people and decline in parishioners from the old country, English is the principal language. Some of the parishioners still speak Russian also.

Every Sunday an oblation, or presentation, is offered by a different family of the congregation. Five loaves of leavened



BLESSING WATER FOR THE EPIPHANY—Rev. George M. Rados of St. George Orthodox Church blesses water in celebration of the Epiphany this month. He then goes from home to home in his congregation, sprinkling and blessing each room with the water. This is one of many ancient customs observed in the Orthodox Church. Strausburg Photo.

center. On the one inch square hosts have been carved IC (Jesus), X C (Chirst), NIKA (prevail or conquer).

The priest removes the host out of the first loaf. Then the larger loaves are cut into small cubes and distributed at the end of the service symbolizing the feeding of the 5,000 by Christ.

No more than one liturgy is celebrated by the same priest (celebrant) on the same day because Christ lived only once. and it must be done before noon. Saint John Chrysostom (the Golden Mouth) is most commonly celebrated.

In April St. George's Day is celebrated. If it falls during Lent, however, the observance must wait until after Easter because it is a joyous celebration.

Easter Services

Easter, the resurrection, is also highly emphasized. Services are given every night that week. This event is important because Easter is the sign of salvation ,and nothing is of value without it, Father Rados explains.

During Easter the members of the congregation go from home to home, greeting each other with, "Christ is born," and replying, "Let us glorify him." They are not supposed to greet anybody without saying these words.

The 40 days preceding Easter, Lent, the congregation fasts and don't eat anything from an animal because of a monasic movement years ago.

The monks felt that animal foods were passionate, explains Father Rados, causing men to be worldly, and the Lord said that everything must be done by prayer and fasting.

Really Abstinence

"This is really abstinence, not fasting," Father Rados said. "Fasting is done only for short periods of time, like before communion."

Because it is bonded to the early ecumenical council, Easter is observed according to the Julian calendar. It can be the same day as of as much as one month apart from the Gregorian Easter.

Other feasts are celebrated according to the newer calendar by the Antiochians, though.

From August 1 to 15 the congregation fasts, or abstains, for Virgin Mary, observing when she fell asleep.

Christmas is celebrated now according to the Gregorian calendar. Some branches of the Orthodox Church still observe it on Jan. 7, as St. George's did until about 25 years ago. "The Gregorian calendar is more exact," according to Father Rados.

The choir at St. George's still sings one carol in Arabic during Christmas.

Unlike the Roman Catholic priests, Orthodox Catholic pasors are usually family men. However, the clergy must marry before being ordained and cannot climb to the episcopate.

A person's place in the church and observance of its customs begins at birth. At this time the priest goes to the hospital to visit mother and child. The mother cannot return to the church for 40 days because of the rights of purification.

Dedicaion Service

The Sunday after the 40 days have passed the child is brought to church for dedication — the churching of mother and child. The priest prays for the baby in the back of the church, then dedicates him to the altar.

Baptism is done by emerson three times. The clothes are then taken off the child and a new white outfit is put on. Godparents who are responsible for the child's spiritual care are also present.

Chrismation or confirmation and the first holy communion are also administered at the time of baptism. All means through which the grace of God works are given to a child as soon as possible. He may then take communion every Sunday.

The next important event for an individual in the church is his marriage. This is done in two steps — the betrothal and the crowning. The betrothal, or engagement, is performed immediately before the marriage because it is so serious it must not be broken.

Father Rados explains that long-term engagements are broken too easily. Of course, many members of the congregatin do have traditional American engagements, but they are not recognized by the church.

Weddings are Gala Affiars

"Weddings are gala affairs," according to Father Rados. In the old country they lasted a week. The night before, guests all go to the bride's house where both Arabic and Syrian dancing are done.

Crowns are placed on the couple's heads during the wedding. The gold crown for the groom and silver for the bride signify those they will receive in the kingdom of heaven and remind the couple their duties in life. A ribbon from one crown to the other signifies unity.

The bride and groom drink from a common cup of wine, then form a circle, symbol of eternity, and sing hymns with the best man and maid or matron of honor.

"We're great believers in processions and circles," Father Rados comments.

When the newly-married couple returns from the honeymoon the crowns are symbolically removed from their heads in the church. They are placed back on, a prayer is said, and they are taken off. Newly-weds used to wear the crowns of leaves all during their honeymoon.

A funeral is a three or four day affair, and the priest is with the family involved as much as possible. After the funeral a mercy meal is served for the bereaved and guests.

Only family members should buy flowers for funeral services. Others are discouraged from doing so but donate money to the church in memory of the deceased.

Forty days after the burial, a family memorial service is held in the church. Boiled wheat is sweetened in reminiscence of the beauty and sweetness of heaven and decorated with candles and raisins. Wheat is symbolic of the resurrection because it must die before it can give life again.

Father Rados is a pastor who is also a family man with four young sons. Since 1961, 10 years ago this month, he has been with St. George's, which was founded in 1927. "I've been offered positions in other cities but I don't want to leave Terre Haute and especially the people of the city and my congregation," he said.

Churches WV

St. George Day to be celebrated

T APR 2 1982 Churches, T. H

St. George Day, honoring Archmandrite Father George Ghannam and all parishoners named George, will be celebrated Friday at St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St.

A vesperal-liturgy is to begin at 7 p.m. followed by dinner, sponsored by the Society of St. George, in the church Social Center, according to Father Daniel Rohan.

Father Ghannam

St. George, considered Syria's most noble saint, was a Christan warrior who captured the imagination of many Christians.

There are many accounts of the manner in which St. George died, but historical documentation indicates he was put through unspeakable tortures before finally being beheaded in Asia Minor.

The Emperor Constantine some years later erected the church of St. George in his memory, setting a precedent for the parade of churches which were to be erected in his memory in the years to come.

Father Ghannam, who received his training in Syria, arrived in America in 1946. His first assignment as a priest was to St. George Church in Terre Haute.

After serving the local parish for nearly six years, he was assigned to St. George Church at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. His elevation to Archmandrite took place in 1952.

In 1960, he was sent to St. George Church, Worcester, Mass., and was also assigned dean of all churches in New England.

He was sent to serve the Mission of St. George Church, San Diego, in 1974, and four years later was assigned to St. George Church in South Glen Falls, N.Y., until his retirement in 1982.

Father George has retired to Terre Haute to be near his family and friends. He will assist Father Rohan during Friday's feast day of the church.

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Community Affairs File

Churches (W.V.)
St. George Orthodox

FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE—Abraham Malooley, left, and Joseph Sabb, members of the St. George Syrian Antiocian Orthodox Church, display their Certificates of Meritorious Service presented Sunday by the Most Rev. Metropolitan Philip Saliba, second from left, Archbishop of New York and all North America. The coveted award was presented for devotion, loyalty and service to the local church. The Rev. George Rados, pastor of the church, assisted in the presentation. The Archbishop was in Terre Haute over the weekend to preside at dedication activities for the new St. George's Educational Annex and Social Center. (Photo by House of Photography)

T.H. STAR 6-1-70

Two Parishioners Of St. George Receive Archbishop's Certificates

The Archibishop's Certificate of Meritorious Service was conferred Sunday on Joseph C. Sabb and Abraham J. Malooley, two parishioners of St. George Antiochcian Orthodox Church by the Most Rev. Metropolitan Philip Saliba, Antiochian Orthodox Archbishop of New York and all North America, during his visit to Terre Haute.

The Archbishop visited here on the occasion of the dedication of the church's Educational Annex and Social Center.

The coveted award is given only by the Archbishop to those who are deemed worthy through their devotion, loyalty and service to the Church. Sabb and Malooley have been proclaimed as the parish's most outstanding members and have deemed themselves worthy of the Archbishop's citation, according to the Rev. George Rados, pastor of the church.

Sabb has served the Church in Terre Haute as its head chanter since he came to the city in 1948. His experience in Byzantine Hymnology and Eastern Orthodox liturgics has been of great value to the local congregation and it was for this purpose that he received the award. Sabb has also served on the Board of Trustees of St. George Orthodox Church for a number of years. Sabb resides at 22 Judith Lane with his wife, the former Rose Nasser, and four children.

Malooley served as chairman of St. George's Board of Trustees for two consecutive years and is presently a board member. As chairman of many committees, Malooley has been instrumental in creating many of the congregation's administrative policies. He also organized the parish's annual Hawaiian Social in 1967, which has since become one of the most outstanding highlights of the parish's social calendar.

Malooley resides at 123 S. 16th St. wtih his wife, the former Catherine Corey, and the youngest of his three daughters.

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St. George - a church plus

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Churches (T.H.) + St.
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By the Very. Rev.
Fr. George M. Rados

In many ways, the history of the Arab-American in Terre Haute is paralleled by the history of the St. George Orthodox Church, established in 1927. Since, with few exceptions, the Arab immigrants to Terre Haute were Orthodox Christian, the people felt a strong desire to build and to preserve a church in which to worship in their own tradition. Moreover, the church serves as the central congregating point for social activities of those people who have strong cultural ties but are of a different religion. Thus, the St. George Church serves the needs of many local people, religiously as well as ethnically.

While it is true that the majority of members of St. George are of Syrian descent, it is also to be noted that people of various other ethnic backgrounds play an important role in the life of the Church. People of Greek, Romanian, Polish, Serbian, and Slovanic backgrounds worship in the Eastern Orthodox tradition at St. George.

But what, ask most Americans, is an Eastern Orthodox? He is a Christian who pays allegiance to the ancient Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch, "where the Disciples were first called Christians." This branch of the Universal church refers to itself as Orthodox to designate its adherence to the ancient traditions of the Apostles themselves.

This, then, was the basis for belief that the Arab Christians believed in when, about 1910, the local community was well on its way to becoming a unique segment of this area. As immigration increased, and the Syrian community expanded, there was an urgent need for an Orthodox Church for these people. From time to time, a priest who was visiting Terre Haute, or passing through on some missionary duty would stop and conduct the Divine Liturgy and other sacraments for the faithful in different homes. For those who remained loyal to their religious heritage of Eastern Orthodoxy, the visits of itinerant priests fell short of meeting their religious appetites.

In the Spring of 1927, the old Voorhees Public School, 635 North Fifth St., was purchased by the newly organized "St. George Syrian Orthodox Society" and a great void was filled by this converted school, turned church and community center. A need for more space resulted in the purchase of the property in the 1900 block of South Fourth St. On May 4, 1958, the new Church was dedicated as once again the tightly knit Syrian community banded together to raise a monument to God in memory of their forefathers. Since 1958, a church rectory, social center, and annex, which houses Sunday school rooms, and offices, have been built on the property.

Besides the religious foundations laid down by these people in the past 75 years, the Syrian people have much more to be proud of. From the time in 1902 when the first family came to Terre Haute, the rich culture and tradition of the Middle East not the least of which is Eastern Orthodoxy, has been preserved and passed on to be shared with many in the Wabash Valley.

Father Rados

A matter of education

By Sandy Sabbagh

Local Arab-Americans, most of whom are of Syrian descent, have long prided themselves on their ability

the press would become more even-handed in its Middle East coverage. Not So. True, the events of October, 1973, were covered in the U.S. media with slightly more objec-

Valley Association for Understanding the Middle East". While the group still has an unwieldy title, it has hopes of expanding its scope and defining its purpose more

St. George Orthodox Church Defenders Will Be Host For Regional SOYO Meet

Churches [Title]

8 APR 2 1975

The Defenders of St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. 4th St., will be host to delegates for the Spring Executive Council Meeting of the Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations (SOYO) of the Midwest Region the weekend of April 18-20.

The three-day conference will be held at the St. George Social Center. The conference opens Friday with the Akathist Service followed by a nostalgia and hospitality evening.

Business meetings of the Executive Council will begin Saturday morning, with George Freije of Indianapolis, president of the Midwest Region, presiding. Ray Azar, 3620 Wabash Ave., is president of the local chapter. Among the main items on the business agenda will be the report of the Scholarship Committee by Dr. Harold A. Sabbagh, chairman. Very Rev. Fr. George M. Rados will discuss the progress of "Project Loving Care" which is a program designed to render some financial aid to needy and war-victimized Arab families living in Palestine. Also reporting will be the Rt. Rev. Fr. James Meena of Cleveland, Ohio, spiritual advisor to SOYO. All officer, committee, and district reports are part of the final preparation for Midwest SOYO's annual conference to be held this year in Sioux City, Iowa, June 18-21.

+ + +

Teenage SOYO will also be meeting on Saturday with Jeff Elias of Cleveland, Ohio, president of Teen SOYO, presiding. Jim Ellis, RR 25, is president of the local Teen chapter of SOYO.

Saturday evening, delegates will be entertained at the Bob Hope Show at the Hulman Civic Amphitheater. The conference closes Sunday with the Divine Liturgy celebrated by Fr. George Rados and the visiting clergy, to be followed by a dinner.

SOYO is the youth organization of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of New York and All North America. The Archdiocese is under the spiritual guidance of Metropolitan Archbishop Philip Saliba, a member of the Holy Synod of the ancient Eastern Orthodox Catholic patriarchate of Antioch.

SOYO was formed in 1946 by the late Metropolitan Archbishop Anthony Bashir, who sought to formulate a youth organization for all young Syrian Orthodox throughout North America. After two years of planning the region held its first convention. Soon SOYO chapters were organized in the churches of the Archdiocese.

Today there are six SOYO regions throughout the United States and Canada, forming the North American Council of SOYO. SOYO is a member of the Council of Eastern Orthodox Youth Leaders in America.

In its 28 years of existence, SOYO has developed programs for church schools, choirs, and teens. Through its missionary program SOYO has assisted with the founding of new churches. SOYO's seminary fund has helped many young men become candidates for the priesthood, including St. George's pastor, Very Rev. Fr. George Rados. While Fr. Rados was a member of the SOYO chapter in Canton, Ohio, he entered St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York. SOYO's scholarship fund has given financial aid to several academically outstanding collegiate SOYO members.

The last time SOYO met in Terre Haute was in 1970, when St. George's local chapter served as hosts to the executive council meeting. Co-chairpersons for the planning of council meetings are Miss Ester Simbol, Ray Azar, Mrs. Kaleel Ellis, George Kassis, and Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ellis.

Churches
WV

Orthodox icon procession today at St. George

St. George Church parishoners hold Orthodox icons to be carried in a procession following a lenten vesper service at 6 p.m. today. A noted iconographer, Father James McLuckie, will speak afterward during a program at the church's Social Hall. Staff Photo/Mark Winkler

Community Affairs File

T S MAR 7 1982

Church observes Orthodoxy Sunday

Churches, Ft. W.

Orthodoxy Sunday, a celebration of the Triumph of Orthodoxy on the first Sunday of Great Lent, is being observed today by Orthodox Christians around the world including parishoners at St. George Orthodox Church, 1900 S. Fourth St., according to a report from the church.

A Great Vesper Service, which consists of a procession with Icons (a sacred painted image), is set for 6 p.m. today at the local church.

The service is a commemoration of the restoration of Icons to the church in Constantinople by Empress Theodora in 842 A.D. "It represents the church's victory over the heresy of Iconoclasm," according to Father Daniel Rohan, pastor of the church.

The Iconoclasts opposed the use of Icons in the church as a form of idoltary. However, at the Seventh Ecumenical Council in 787 A.D. the church decreed Orthodox Christians should honor icons as a sign of the Incarnation of Jesus Christ who is God and took human flesh, Rohan said.

"Orthodox Christians portray that event in salvation by honoring the image of the Incarnate God. They never worship icons but honor or venerate the images for the meaning they represent," the report continues. "Saints are honored as a means to honor the salvation given to mankind by Christ.

"Icons are honored because through Christ, God sanctified the material world in which we live. And, belief is that the honor given to icons is mystically transmitted to the person or event depicted rather than the wood and paint of the icon."

Following the procession, a lenten meal, sponsored by St. George's Ladies Society, will take place in the Social Hall.

A program featuring Father James McLuckie of Ft. Wayne will follow. The noted iconographer is to speak on "The Theology of Icons in the Orthodox Church." Father Rohan invites the community to attend.

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Community Affairs File

Churches WV
St. George Orth

Two Earn Award For Service

Churches (TH)

OCT 13 1978

Two parishioners of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church have received the Archbishop's Certificate of Merit. Esther Simbol and George Kassis received the coveted award for "devotion, loyalty and service to the local church."

The two were proclaimed the parish's most outstanding members by the Most Rev. Metropolitan Philip Saliba in 1974 during the time Father George Rados was serving the local church, but for some reason the actual presentation of the awards was not made at that time.

After receiving a letter from Father Rados explaining the matter and declaring Simbol and Kassis "a great credit to the parish of Terre Haute because of their continued devotion and service to the church," Father George Manneh, current pastor of St. George, presented the awards — acting as a representative of the bishop — in order to avoid further delay.

Miss Simbol currently serves as superintendent of Sunday School and chairman of the local parish council. She is a former president of St. George Ladies Society and past secretary of the parish council and continues as a teacher in the Sunday School. She also was advisor to the local Teen SOYO group for a nine-year period and was awarded the Rt. Rev. Ellis Khouri Merit Award presented by the Midwest Society of Orthodox Youth, SOYO, in 1977.

She also has extended her service beyond the local parish serving as vice president of the Midwest SOYO for two years and as secretary and Christian Education Director and chairman for Project Loving Care, a program of help for Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. She has been in charge of Food for Hungry People and was awards chairman for the midwest — a group serving 12 states and 32 chapters. She also served on a number of midwest area committees and was responsible for the first SOYO Guideline Manual.

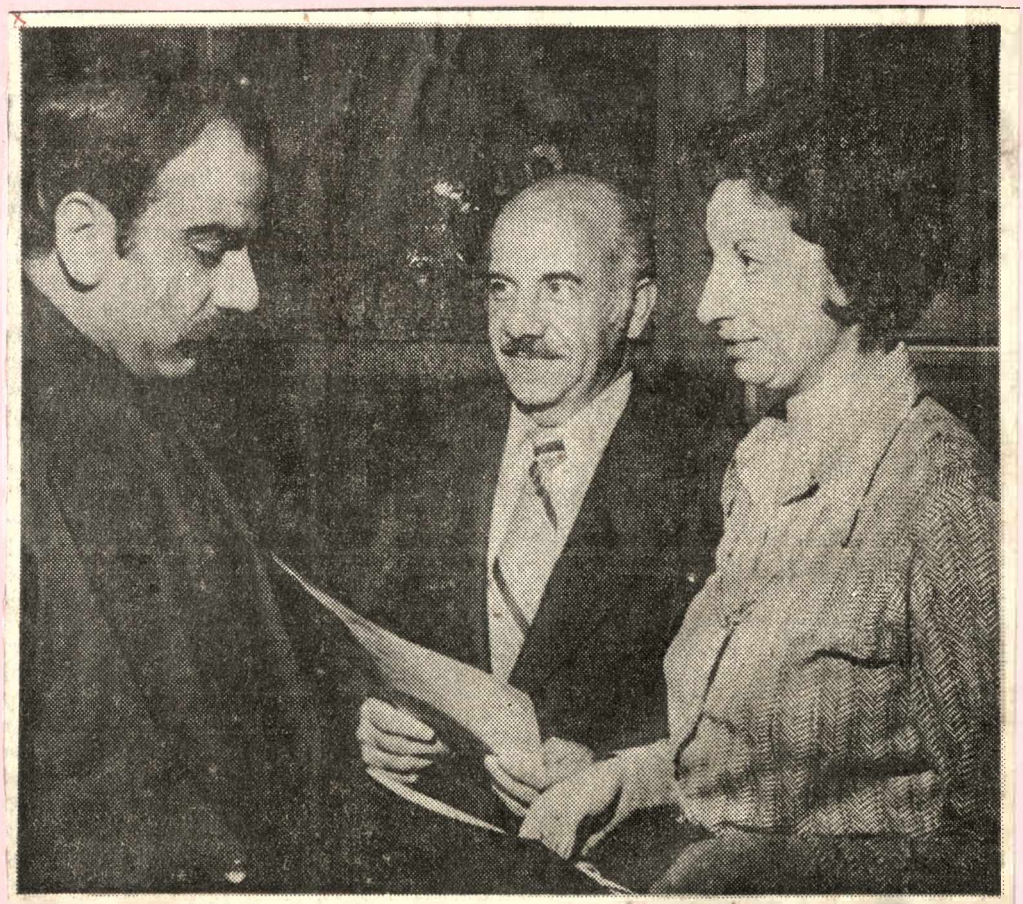
On the national level, Miss Simbol has been chairman for Project Loving Care and served as a member of the nominating committee to select national officers.

She is a secretary to the senior vice president of Terre Haute First National Bank and resides with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Simbol, RR 23.

Kassis also has been active with the SOYO organization and was one of the organizers of the group. He has served on several committees and as president of SOYO. For a number of years he has represented St. George's as a delegate in the SOYO organization. He also is a number of the parish council and a delegate to the Archdiocesan convention.

For a number of years he has worked with Sunday School children in the area of creative arts.

Kassis and his brother, Mose, operate the Court House Realty firm. He resides with his wife, Rosemary, and daughter, Sophia, at 2106 Crawford St.



SERVICE RECOGNIZED — Father George Manneh, left, pastor of St. George Antiochan Orthodox Church, presented special certificates recognizing "continued devotion and service to the church" to two of his parishioners. The Archbishop's Certificate of Merit was granted to George Kassis and Mrs. Esther Simbol in 1974, but the actual presentation was delayed. (Star Photo: Kadel)

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Community Affairs File - Churches (T.H.)

Parishioners host farewell party

Ts AUG 27 1978

Parishioners of St. George Orthodox Church hosted a farewell dinner-dance at the church social center Saturday night in honor of Father Samuel David, his wife Janet and children Samuel, Daria and Joseph.

Father Sam, as he is called by parishioners, has been transferred by the Metropolitan Archbishop to Pittsburgh, Pa. His last official duties in Terre Haute were performing the Divine Liturgy Sunday morning. Monday, he and his family will leave for their new home.

In the two years Father Sam has served St. George, he and his wife have worked to serve the parish and have endeared themselves to members of the parish, according to Esther Simbol, chairperson of the parish council.

In addition to serving his parish, Father David has ministered to Orthodox individuals at Bloomington, Ind., traveling there one day each month to conduct services and attend other necessary details.

He has also made himself and his services available to persons from the surrounding communities and has visited the local penitentiary one day each week for counseling and prayer.

He will be serving the largest parish in the archdiocese, encompassing all of North America.

His new church, St. George Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh, has a congregation of approximately 400 families, and is only about 60 miles from the new Antiochian Village being opened by the Orthodox Church.

At Saturday night's dinner presided over by Miss Simbol, the choir, under the direction of Peter Parshall, sang special music in honor of Father Sam and his family. Joseph C. Malooley, who was instrumental in securing the present church facilities, gave a toast.

Louis Corey, parish council vice chairperson, presented the Davids with a set of luggage, a gift from the congregation. Presidents of the various organizations within the church also paid verbal tribute and presented gifts on behalf of their respective groups. Michael Ellis represented the Society of St. George. Peter Tanoos spoke on behalf of the Teen SOYO. St. George Ladies Society was represented by Mary E. Malola.

Following the dinner, dancing to the music of the Bob Buck band completed the evening's festivities.

Father Sam assured his parish of the past two years, "I will always have a warm spot in my heart for Terre Haute." Although he has a long history of church work, St. George's was his first official pastorate after his ordination in 1976 in Newcastle, Pa., where he served as an assistant priest before moving to Terre Haute last year.

He was ordained as a sub deacon in May of 1971 and as a deacon in July 1973, serving a year in Pittsburg and two years in Brownsville, Pa.

Prior to entering the priesthood, Father Sam taught chemistry and physical science at Chartiers Valley High School for 13 years, during eight of which he was science coordinator. He holds the master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

He also had experience in professional athletics and coaching, signing with the St. Louis Browns in 1950. After a two-year stint in the military service from November 1950 to November 1952, he resumed his baseball career, this time playing for the Baltimore Orioles who had purchased the Browns' franchise.

In 1955 the State Department sent him on a goodwill tour to the Middle East where he taught and coached basketball, visiting Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq while his wife of eight days remained in the states. Upon his return to the University of Pittsburgh, he coached basketball.

Again in 1959 the State Department sent him to the Middle East for a year. During this mission he and his wife Janet spent one half of the time in Egypt.

He was drafted by the Baltimore Bullets for basketball but after receiving injuries decided to stick with baseball.

Father Sam began studying theology at Duquesne University in his spare time during the time he was a deacon.

When he assumes charge of his new pastorate, Father Sam will not only be taking with him a wealth of experience and training, but he and his family will be, in a literal sense, going home.

Churches WV St. George Orth.

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Community Affairs File

Churches WV
St. George Orth.

St. George members honored

Churches, T. H.

JUL 10 1978

Numerous awards and honors achieved by members of the St. George Orthodox Church at the recent Midwest SOYO 31st Annual Parish Life Conference at Hudson, Ohio, were presented by Father Samuel David, pastor, following divine liturgy Sunday.

Among the awards were the Senior SOYO Club of the Year Award and nine creative writing contest awards.

In addition, Esther Simbol was appointed nominations chairperson and St. Jude chairperson for the Midwest region.

The Society of St. George, which competed with 33 chapters in a 12-state area, received a plaque and a traveling trophy for being judged the most outstanding Senior SOYO club for the past year. Michael Ellis, who is currently the president, accepted the awards on behalf of the organization.

Creative writing contest winners competed with 244 students who entered the competition from 20 parishes represented. Each entry was in competition with all other entries from the respective grade level for judging. Winning first place trophies were Jennifer Tanoos, first grade; Demetres Karavellas, sixth grade; and Margaret Pierce, ninth grade.

Receiving second place trophies were Alan Kassis, fifth grade and Pete Tanoos, 10th grade. Melissa Maloof, third grade, received third place. Receiving citations for honorable mention were Melinda Maloof, first grade; Steve Poleski, second grade; and T.J. Tanoos, sixth grade.

All students who entered received certificates for their endeavor. Marietta Karavellas also received a certificate for her entry in the art contest.

Father David and Miss Simbol reported all winning entries were on display at the convention and Terre Haute had the largest number of winners of any parish in the region. They praised the efforts of Sunday School teachers Chuck Shahadey, Janice Poleski, Richard Tanoos and Mary Malola, under who whose guidance the children worked.

Miss Simbol, who is superintendent of the St. George Sunday School and chairperson of the parish council, was a delegate representing the Society of St. George. She has been chairperson of the following committees for Midwest SOYO: Food for the Hungry, Merit Award, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and Midwest SOYO Pens.

Serving as teen delegates to the conference were Pete Tanoos, immediate past president of the local Teen SOYO Club, Rasheeda Azar, Janet Sabb, Jeannie Sabb (current sponsor of local Teen SOYO), Daria David, Joey David and Sammy David.

All first place winners in the creative writing contest will represent the Midwest region at the 33rd annual Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archidocese Conference July 23-30 in Houston, Texas. They will be competing with five other regions for national awards.

Delegates who will represent St. George's at Houston will be Miss Simbol, Louis Corey, who is vice chairperson of the parish council, and Father David.

(cover)

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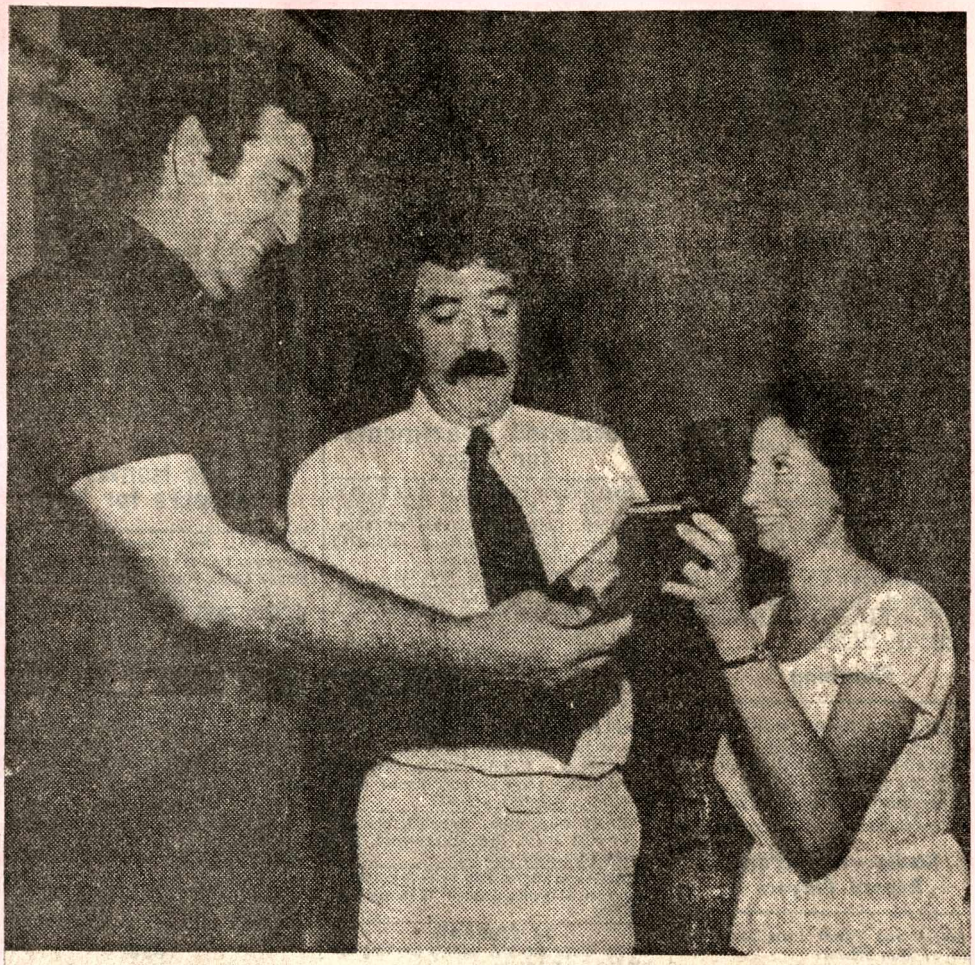

ADMIRING AWARDS — Father Samuel David, Mike Ellis and Esther Simbol, all of St. George Orthodox Church, admire one of many awards achieved by members of the church during the recent Midwest SOYO 31st Annual Parish Life Conference at Hudson, Ohio.

House of Photography

Community Affairs File

Churches WV

St. George Church Plans 50th Anniversary

(Churches (7-H)

APR 20 1977

The schedule of events and activities for the 50th anniversary celebration of St. George Orthodox Church, May 13, 14 and 15, is nearing completion.

The celebration will begin with a coffee hour and rap session on Friday evening, at the Social Center, 1900 S. 4th St., with Archbishop Michael Shaheen.Sponsored by Teen-Age Society of Orthodox Youth Organizations, the session will be open to all parishioners and friends.

On Saturday, May 14, a breakfast will be held for invited Parish Council members and church dignitaries hosted by Kate Malooley and George Azar. After the breaffast, Archbishop Shaheen will conduct press conferences.

Later in the afternoon, invited guests will attend a reception for the Archbishop and dignitaries hosted by Woodrow Corey.

A "Dutch-Treat" dinner will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Saratoga Cafe, 5th Street and Wabash Avenue.

Tryouts and auditions will be held Friday, April 22, at the Social Center for the "Variety Gong Show," scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at the Center.

Immediately following the variety show, a "Hafli" with music provided by local talent and two guest Arabic musicians from Detroit, Mich., will be held at the Center.

On Sunday, May 15, the celebration continues with the Hierarchal Divine Liturgy beginning at 11 a.m. Many guest clergy will be serving with Father Samuel David, including Fathers George Rados and George Ghannam.

On Sunday evening a "Champagne Toast" will take place at 5:30 p.m. with the Grand Banquet starting at 6 p.m. Many area and national dignitaries will pay tribute to the 50 year celebration including Congressman John Myers and Mayor William Brighton.

Those present at the banquet will receive a memento of St. George's anniversary and a program book which traces the history of the church beginning with the first board of trustees in 1927 headed by the late George Nasser to the present Parish Council, whose president is George Azar.

The "Burning of the Mortgage" will conclude the anniversary celebration.

Tickets for the Saturday and Sunday evening events, excluding the dinner at the Saratoga, can be purchased in advance at a reduced price until May 6. Ticket sales will be limited to 200 for the Sunday evening banquet. More information can be obtained by contacting Raymond Azar, Mike Maloof or George Azar.

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Churches WV
Community Affairs File

Ts MAY 15 1977

St.George Church Marks 50th Year

Community Affairs File

Sunday marks the end of the 50th anniversary celebration of the St. George Orthodox Church, 1930 S. 4th St., with a day of worship and entertainment programs being scheduled.

The hierarchal divine liturgy is to be offered at 11 a.m. by celebrants Archbishop Michael Shaheen, Father Samuel David, Very Reverend George M. Rados, and Rite Reverend George Ghannam. The bishop's uncle, Woodrow Corey, will join regular chantor Joe Sabb, Sr. in chanting the service that was performed when the church first started in 1927.

After the liturgy, a reception breakfast will be hosted by Father Samuel and Janet David for invited guests and visiting clergy.

The social center will be the scene for the grand banquet at 6 p.m. About 230 persons are expected to attend this final event.

Many national and community leaders are to be in attendance. The speakers table will include: Congressman John Myers, Mayor William J. Brighton, Ralph Tucker of the Chamber of Commerce, Mrs. Corrine Mareena (first Ladies Society president), Michael Maloof (general chairman of the celebration), George Azar (Parish Council president and master of ceremonies), Rite Reverend George Ghannam, Very Reverend George M. Rados, Father Samuel David and His Eminence Archbishop Michael Shaheen.

After the dinner, a ceremony very important to the local congregation is to be consumated. The "burning of the mortgage" signifying the last payment on the new social center, will have ten of the faithful holding the urn that will contain the ashes. These persons include: George J. Corey, Sam Corey, Father Samuel David, Kaleel Ellis, George Kassis, Mrs. Abe Malooley, Father George Rados, Charles Shahadey, Esther Simbol and Archbishop Michael Shaheen.

Upon completion of this, 50 yellow roses will be auctioned off by Archbishop Michael in commemoration of this golden anniversary. This tradition was originated by the late Metropolitan Archbishop Antony Bashir who was the first priest of St. George Church in 1927.

Entertainment for the evening will be provided by the magnificent voices of the St. George Church choir. Honored for past performances in choir competition, they are an integral part of the worship service each week assisting the priest in many ways.

Finally, all those in attendance at the banquet will receive a special gift commemorating the anniversary. Also, through the efforts of general chairman, Mike Maloof, a 50th anniversary album containing congratulations from many area businesses and individuals, family pictures of parishoners, and the 50-year history of the church is to be distributed to the persons attending.

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Churches WV

Plan 50th Anniversary Of St. George Church

S APR 29 1977
Churches (TH) Community Affairs File

Between the years 1898 and 927 changes were occurring in he world and in Terre Haute. The horse was being replaced by the automobile, the steam engine became obsolete due to the internal combustion engine, the assembly line was initiated, the telephone, electricity and other inventions were introduced.

In Terre Haute, the Meis store was enlarging, Woodrow Wilson Junior High School was in the planning stages and a small band of persons, faithful to the Eastern Orthodox church rite, were becoming citizens and established members of the Wabash Valley community.

These persons felt a need for a church of their own, spurred on by the absence of such a house of worship during times of need such as funerals, baptisms and weddings. Thus, in May of 1927, the "St. George Syrian Orthodox Society" was organized.

The Society consisted of persons of a common ethnic background who shared the experience of leaving their native lands and coming to a new country strange to them in custom. Over the years these immigrants had replacsd their questionable future with a more stable outlook and by 1927 thoughts of their native lands were but fond memories. They were now Americans and sought to build their existance in this the new land on a foundation of faith.

The St. George Syrian-American Orthodox Church was started in 1927 in a school building at 635 N. 5th St., which housed the church and a social center. The structure later became obsolete and was sold to Indiana State University.

A new church was built in 1957 at the present site at 1900 S. 4th St. and later a social center and parish house were added. Another social center was built and the previous one was turned into classrooms and offices.

The site, which occupies the entire length of the block, stands as a monument to those early pioneers of the Orthodox faith. It serves the Terre Haute community and all members regardless of ethnic background.

Fifty years after its birth, the children and grandchildren of the church founders are planning a celebration. Michael Maloof, the prime mover behind the celebration has scheduled a weekend full of entertainment and worship beginning Friday, May 13 and ending Sunday, May 15.

Friday evening Archbishop Michael Shaheen will meet with the congregation for an informal session sponsored by the parish teens. A morning press conference and brunch for clergy and dignitaries is planned for Saturday. In the afternoon, clergy and guests will attend a reception at a parishoner's home.

A "dutch treat" dinner at the Saratoga Cafe and a "Hafli" or indoor Arabic style dance is planned for Saturday evening. Terre Haute musicians Joey Sabb and Ferris Shahadey and two musicians from Detroit, Mich. will entertain.

Sunday, the hierarchal divine liturgy will be offered with celebrants Archbishop Shaheen, Father George Rados, Father George Ghanem and Father Samuel David, present pastor. Chanting in addition to regular Chanter Joe Sabb Sr. will be Woodrow Corey who will be chanting the same liturgy he did in 1927 when the church first opened its doors.

Sunday evening a grand banquet is scheduled with speakers Mayor William Brighton, Congressman John Myers, and Ralph Tucker of the Chamber of Commerce. Orthodox dignitaries from around the nation will also attend. After the dinner, will be the "burning of the mortgage." Persons attending the banquet will be given a special momento of the occasion and a program album noting the first 50-year history of "St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church."

Tickets for the weekend activities at the Social Center, 1900 S. 4th St. can be purchased at a reduced price until May 6 by contacting Maloof, general chairman or George Azar, president of the Parish Council.

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Community Affairs File

Churches WV
St. George Orth.

Churches (T. H.)
Community Affairs File

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES END — The highlight of the 50th anniversary celebration of the St. George Orthodox Church, 1930 S. 4th St., took place Sunday night with a grand banquet attended by 240 persons. Many dignitaries were present including these church leaders: (from the left), George Azar, St. George Church Parish Council president; Rt. Rev. George Ghannam, past priest of the local church; Father Samuel David, present St. George priest; Father Joseph Rahal, Indianapolis Parish priest; and His Eminence Archbishop Michael Shaheen. House of Photography Photo

T MAY 16 1977

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Community Affairs File
St. George Orth.

Churches (Gen'l)

Community Affairs File

JTE, IND. FRIDAY, MAY 13, 1977

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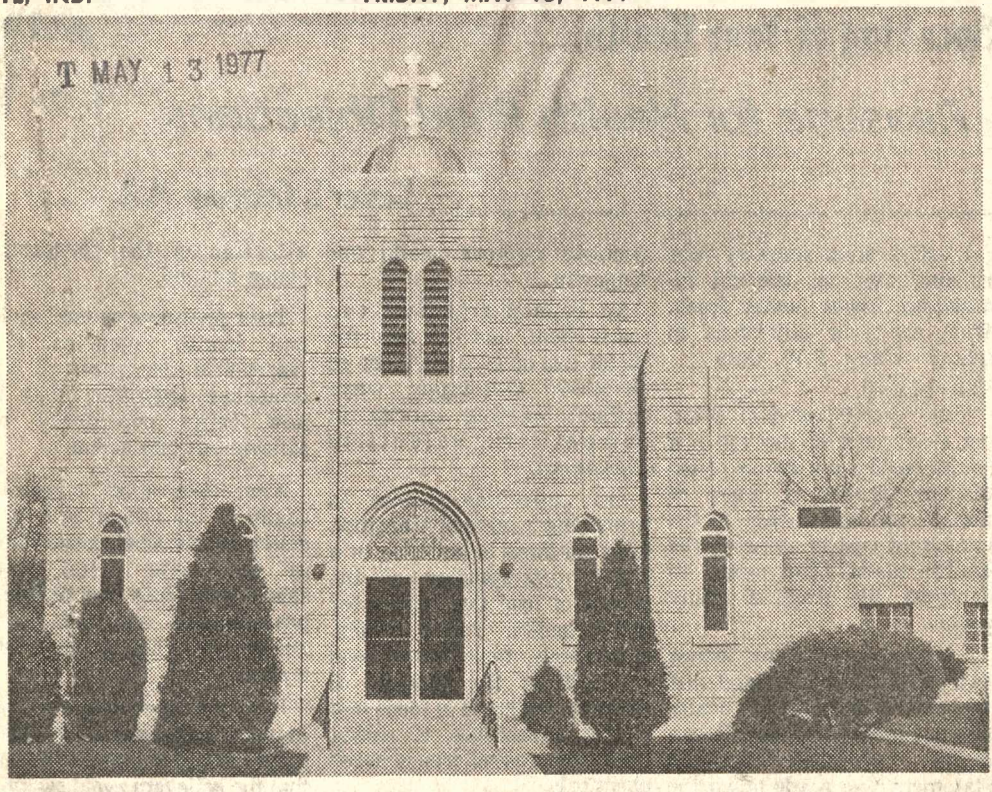

CELEBRATES GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY — Parishoners and friends of the St. George Orthodox Church, located at 1930 S. 4th St., will celebrate its 50th anniversary this weekend with many events. The original church was housed in a school building at 635 N. 5th St., for 30 years, until the present church was constructed in 1957.

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Churches WV
Community Affairs File

St. George Marks 50th Year

Community Affairs File T MAY 13 1977

Many Church Festivities Arranged

By CHARLES J. MALOOF
Tribune Staff Writer

This weekend St. George Orthodox Church, 1930 S. 4th St., celebrates its 50th anniversary as part of the Terre Haute community.

Beginning Friday, at 8 p.m., host pastor Father Samuel David and the Rt. Rev. George Ghannam are to meet with the parishoners in an informal question and answer program sponsored by the church teenagers.

Saturday at 10:30 a.m. a brunch will be held for visiting clergy and guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Malooley. An afternoon reception honoring His Eminence Archbishop Michael Shaheen will be held at the home of his nephew Woodrow Corey.

Archbishop Michael has been in the priesthood for 26 years and is the first American-born Christian to become bishop in the Church of Antioch. (See related photo on page 8)

Scheduled for 5:30 p.m. is a "dutch treat" dinner at the Saratoga Cafe which precedes a "Hafli" or indoor Arabic style dance commencing at 8:30 p.m. Local musicians Joey Sabb and Ferris Shahadey will be accompanied by two entertainers from Detroit, Mich.

Sunday at 11 a.m., the hierarchal divine liturgy is to be offered with celebrants Archbishop Shaheen, Father. Samuel David, Fr. George Rados (local priest from 1961 to 1976 now residing in Washington, D.C.), and Father George Ghannam. Assisting regular Chantor Joe Sabb, Sr. will be Woodrow Corey chanting the same words he did in 1927 when the church was first opened.

Climaxing this memorable event is to be a grand banquet Sunday at 6 p.m. Guest speakers are to include Mayor William J. Brighton, Congressman John Myers, and Ralph Tucker of the Chamber of Commerce. Also in attendance will be Orthodox dignitaries from around the nation. Another milestone is to be reached for the church when the "burning of the mortgage" is performed following the dinner. A final mortgage payment was made last month for the debt on the construction of the present social center a few years ago.

Persons attending the banquet, according to Mike Maloof, general chairman of the event, will receive a special memento of the occasion and a program album noting the first 50-year history of "St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church."

On May 6, 1927, the St. George Syrian-American Orthodox Church was established and located at the old Voorhees Public School, 635 N. 5th St. The Right Reverend Antony Bashir was in charge of organizing the parish. Later, Bashir became the Metropolitan Archbishop of the United States and North America.

The first Board of Trustees consisted of Sam Corey, Nicholas Corey, Skander Corey, Michael Ellis, Sam George, William Kassis, Charles Maloof, Saleem Nasser, Assad Saikley, Charles Saikley, Ferris Shahadey and Sam Tanoos.

The church was housed on the second floor, while classrooms and a social center were on the first floor. The structure was eventually sold to Indiana State University.

In 1957, under the leadership of board president Joe Malooley, the present church was built, with a social center and parish house added later. At this time the church name became "The St. George Orthodox Church." The initial social center became occupied with classrooms and offices, thus, the present-day building was constructed. The church, which occupies the entire length of the block, stands as a monument to those early pioneers of the Orthodox faith.

The religion of Eastern Orthodoxy is the oldest in Christiandom dating back to the Apostle Peter. The service is for the most part in English, but traditional Arabic chanting is still maintained.

Presently, persons from all walks of life and different ethnic backgrounds are part of the membership of the St. George Orthodox Church

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Community Affairs File

Churches WV
St. Georges

St. George Society Names 1977 Officers

Community Affairs File

Churches (T.H.) Jan 6, 1977-S

Sam Ginopolos was elected president of the St. George Society of the St. George Orthodox Church, and called for his staff to begin planning for the 50th anniversary celebration of the church's founding in Terre Haute.

Elected to serve with Ginoplos were Steve Poleski, vice president; Cathy Azar, recording secretary; Esther Simbol, corresponding secretary; and Mike Ellis, treasurer; with Father Samuel David as spiritual advisor.

The staff will meet Jan. 16 at the president's home 128 S. 11th St., to consider plans for the Golden Anniversary program.

Initial event of the year will be a Hawaiian party in St. George Annex on Feb. 20. Tickets will be limited to 250 persons, and a Hawaiian vacation will be awarded.

Local denomination of the Eastern Orthodox faith was founded here May 6, 1927, and has experienced a healthy growth and expansion of church facilities during the 50 years.

Two of the original members of the church still survive, and their names will be disclosed during the period prior to May 6 as the church history is reviewed.

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St George Church - Orthodox

Tribune-Star/Bonnie Jeffery

Traditional Orthodox art: The Rev. Daniel Rohan with icons (holy pictures).

Community Affairs File
Churches (W.V.)

Orthodoxy Lenten observance today

T-S MAR 3 1985

Today is Orthodoxy Sunday for Orthodox Christians worldwide. Parishioners of St. George Church, 1900 S. Fourth St., will observe the Lenten tradition with a special service and program.

Great Lent began on Feb. 25 for the Orthodox faithful.

"This observance commemorates the re-introducing of icons into the Orthodox Church during the Eighth century," the Rev. Daniel Rohan, St. George's priest, said. "It is one of the most important feast days in our faith."

Icons are holy pictures that are painted to express symbolically the spiritual character of heavenly saints or incidents from the gospel, Rohan said.

Icons have graced Orthodox churches since the apostolic age. A Byzantine emperor removed all icons from churches during the Seventh century and Orthodox Christians were banned from using them in any manner for 150 years.

Finally on March 11, 843 A.D., Empress Theodora ordered restoration of the icons and a great celebration took place in St. Sophia Church.

"During that period a meeting was held which defined the position of the icon in Orthodox worship," Rohan said. "The tradition of restoring icons is why the Sunday of Orthodoxy will be celebrated all over the world."

A procession of icons featuring Sunday School children will take place following the 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy. A Lenten covered-dish meal will follow in the social center, and later a film will be shown depicting the Orthodox church in Romania.

Community Affairs File
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